93-02715/

VICTIMS ASSISTANCE COMMITTEE

ANNUAL REPORT

1990 - 91

Northwest Territories Justice

June 14, 1991.

The Honourable Michael A. Ballantyne
Minister of Justice

Dear Mr. Minister:

On behalf of the Victims Assistance Committee, I have the honour of submitting to you the second Annual Report of the Victims Assistance Committee. The Report covers the fiscal year ending March 31, 1991.

This year, the Committee was pleased that applications for the support of victims programs came from communities across the Northwest Territories. Awareness of the Victims Assistance Fund grew, and we were able to recommend funding for many worthwhile projects for victims.

Recently, the Committee was honoured when one of our members, Jan Stirling, was the first recipient of the Northwest Territories Outstanding Volunteer Service award.

It has been a pleasure for me to serve on the Victims Assistance Committee with Jan Stirling and Joanasie Salamonie, and we have all appreciated the dedicated work of Lawrence Norbert, the Victims Coordinator. We thank you for your continuing support of our activities and recommendations.

Yours sincerely,

Nora M. Sanders
Chairperson
Victims Assistance Committee

VICTIMS OF CRIME ACT

The Northwest Territories Victims of Crime Act, proclaimed in force April 1st, 1989, established the Victims Assistance Fund and provided for the appointment of a Victims Assistance Committee.

VICTIMS ASSISTANCE COMMITTEE

The Victims Assistance Committee is appointed by the Minister of Justice pursuant to section 2 of the Victims of Crime Act and is mandated to make recommendations to the Minister on

(a) policies regarding the needs and concerns of victims of crime, and
(b) the distribution of the Victims Assistance Fund.

The Committee consists of three members:

Nora Sanders (Chairperson)	Director, Policy and Planning Division NWT Department of Justice Yellowknife
Jan Stirling	Nurse-in-Charge Public Health Centre Yellowknife
Joanasie Salomonie	Drug and Alcohol Specialist NWT Department of Social Services Iqaluit

COMMITTEE STAFF SUPPORT

Lawrence Norbert is the full time Victims Coordinator, paid from the Justice department budget to provide administrative and executive support to the Committee and to work on implementation of victim initiatives.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

As one of the Committee members is from the eastern Arctic, the Committee conducts many of its review meetings by teleconference. Proposals are reviewed and recommendations are made to the Minister as to distribution of money from the Victims Assistance Fund, including the terms and conditions upon which the money should be paid. In 1990-91, seven meetings were held, six of them by teleconference.

VICTIMS ASSISTANCE FUND

The total receipts of federal and territorial victim fine surcharges for 1990-91 were $ 120,478.04.

Under the Victims of Crime Act every person, other than a young offender, who is convicted of an offence under a territorial enactment is required to pay a surcharge of 15% on any fine imposed. A similar surcharge applies to certain federal legislations (Criminal Code, Food and Drugs Act and Narcotic Control Act). Where no fine is imposed, a surcharge of $25 for territorial offences and $35 for federal offences is imposed. Municipal by-laws are exempt from surcharges.

The court may waive or reduce the surcharge if the offender can establish that undue hardship would result from the imposition of a victim surcharge. Reasons for waiving the surcharge must either be entered in the record of the proceedings or provided in writing. The Act provides that the first money collected is applied to the surcharge, and the balance to the fine. This same principle is applied to all surcharges.

Both territorial and federal victim surcharge monies collected are placed in a special fund known as the Victims Assistance Fund. This is a revolving fund, separate from the general departmental budget, and is allowed to carry over from one fiscal year to the next. Separate revenue accounts for federal and territorial surcharge receipts are maintained, although the money is all considered part of the Fund, and no differentiation is made in the distribution of the money.

ADDITIONAL VICTIMS FUNDING

Separate from the Victims Assistance Fund, there was money for victims of crime allocated in the Department of Justice 1990/91 budget. This was used for the costs associated with the victims co-ordinator position, travel and honorarium costs for the Victims Assistance Committee, and other departmental victims work. Expenditures of this money were not considered by the Victims Assistance Committee. Under a cost sharing agreement with the Department of Justice Canada, $50,000 of the N.W.T. Department of Justice expenditures relating to victims of crime in 1990/91 is to be reimbursed.

DISBURSEMENTS FROM THE VICTIMS ASSISTANCE FUND

Disbursements from the Fund for 1990-91 were $ 117,463.63.

Thirty-three applications were received and considered by the Victims Assistance Committee in 1990-91. Twenty-seven were approved within the fiscal year, two did not satisfy the mandate of the Act, two were withdrawn by the applicants, and two were considered by the Committee in May of 1991.

Section 14 of the Victims of Crime Act states that the Minister shall consider the recommendations of the Victims Assistance Committee and may authorize disbursements from the Fund for

(a) promotion and delivery of services to victims;

(b) research into services to victims and needs and concerns of victims;

(c) distribution of information respecting services to victims and needs and concerns of victims;

(d) remuneration of members of the Committee for their services and for reimbursement of reasonable expenses incurred on behalf of the Committee; and

(e) any other purpose the Minister considers necessary for carrying out the purposes of this Act.

Appendix 'A' includes a list of 1990/91 contributions to recipients.

ACTIVITIES OF 1990-91

INTER-AGENCY COMMITTEE ON WIFE ABUSE

The Coordinator sits on this Committee formed by government and community-based organizations in Yellowknife to work towards the elimination of wife abuse.

VICTIM SERVICES UNIT WORKING COMMITTEE

The Coordinator sat on this Working Committee which established the basic framework for a Yellowknife Victim Services Program to be implemented by the Family Violence Program of the YWCA. Protocols are being developed for the YWCA and RCMP.

INTER-DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE ON CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE

Protocols for front line workers were developed by this committee of senior level representatives from the Departments of Social Services, Justice, Health, Culture and Communications, Education, Womens' Secretariat, Justice Canada and the R.C.M.P. The Chairperson participates in this committee.

BOOKLET FOR CHILDREN ON SEXUAL ABUSE

A booklet, reflecting a northern context, was developed in co-operation with the Departments of Justice, Social Services, Health, Education, Justice Canada, and the R.C.M.P., to help child sexual abuse victims through the court process. Distribution is by the agencies directly involved in these cases.

VICTIM IMPACT STATEMENT PROGRAM

In late March, the Executive Council approved a Victim Impact Statement Pilot Project to be carried out in Fort Rae, Coppermine, Hay River, Fort Resolution, Aklavik, Norman Wells, Rankin Inlet, Pond Inlet, and Sanikiluaq through the R.C.M.P. in those communities.

This project was developed after consultation with police, crown counsel, defence counsel, and the judiciary. The Victim Impact Statement will inform the court, at the time of sentencing, of the physical, emotional, and financial effects the crime has had on the victim. The Victims Coordinator will monitor the program during the pilot project stage.

NORTHERN VICTIM ASSISTANCE CONFERENCE 1992

The Coordinator sits as chairperson of a Planning Committee for a Northern Victims Assistance Conference scheduled to be held in Hay River in February, 1992. Delegates funded by the Victims Assistance Committee to attend the 1990 Canadian Organization for Victims Assistance (COVA) conference in Mississauga made recommendations in their reports to hold such a conference. The president of COVA has expressed willingness to provide financial and practical support for this regional conference.

CONFERENCES/WORKSHOPS

The Coordinator attended the second annual Canadian Organization for Victims Assistance (COVA) conference held at Mississauga, Ontario, in September. He attended the following sessions: victim/witness assistance programs, victim impact statements, effective program evaluation, management and maintenance of a victim service program, elements in developing a new service, and elder abuse.

In January, the Coordinator attended a Child Sexual Abuse Investigation Training workshop in Inuvik. This workshop was conducted by the Coordinator of the Child Sexual Abuse program of the Department of Social Services specifically for members of the R.C.M.P., social services workers, and health personnel.

VICTIM ASSISTANCE

The Coordinator has assisted victims by providing information on specific subjects (e.g. grief, child abuse), referrals to support agencies (e.g. criminal injuries compensation), and personal and emotional support.

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE INITIATIVES

The Victims Assistance Committee will take on a broader role in advising the Minister about new initiatives being developed by the Department of Justice to support victims of crime. These initiatives include:

- preparation of a training manual for local people, either working in related fields or serving as volunteers, who need information and training about the justice system as it affects victims. The manual will serve as a permanent reference source;

- the conduct of training sessions using the manual in several regions over the coming year. An informational video is also planned as part of this package;

- sharing with the Department of Justice, Canada, the costs related to two regional victims coordinators in Yellowknife and Iqaluit. They will facilitate communication between the crown prosecutors' offices and people in the communities, and will be resource persons for those community people working with victims;

- production of a video on child sexual abuse to accompany the booklet "Kids in Court" which was prepared this year. The video would convey a similar message, explaining what takes place in court, what professionals they will be in contact with, and so on.

TEEN SEXUAL ASSAULT GUIDE

The next progession from the 'Kids in Court' booklet is one for teenagers on sexual assault issues, such as 'date rape'. The review Committee includes representatives from the territorial Social Services, Health, Education, from Justice Canada, the R.C.M.P., from the N.W.T. Family Counselling Services, Alison McAteer House, and from the Victims Assistance Committee.

Appendix 'A'

VICTIMS ASSISTANCE FUND 1990-91

VICTIM FINE SURCHARGES

BALANCE from 1989-90		24,851.00
SURCHARGES	Territorial	52,395.64
	Federal	68,082.40
	Subtotal (1990-91)	120,478.04
TOTAL BALANCE		145,329.04
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS		117,463.63
BALANCE		27,865.41

DISBURSEMENTS

Roman Catholic Diocese of the MacKenzie District (Yellowknife)	Attendance at a Family Violence Awareness Training Workshop for Pastoral Agents (Yellowknife)	6,000.00
Zhahti Koe Friendship Centre (Fort Providence)	Attendance at a Training Conference on Counselling Mentally Disabled Persons (Yellowknife)	1,547.00
Arctic Public Legal Education and Information (P.L.E.I.) Society (Yellowknife)	NWT Victims Needs Study; Victim Assistance Programme Development Guide	21,836.00
Arctic P.L.E.I. Society (Yellowknife)	Attendance at the second annual Canadian Organization for Victim Assistance (COVA) Conference (Mississauga, Ontario)	1,547.00
Y.W.C.A. (Yellowknife)	Attendance at the C.O.V.A. Conference (Mississauga)	1,505.00
Women's Resource Centre (Hay River)	Attendance at the C.O.V.A. Conference (Mississauga); Family Violence Public Education Activities; Abused Women Needs Identification Workshop (Hay River)	2,363.50
Kataujaq Society of Rankin Inlet	Attendance at the C.O.V.A. Conference (Mississauga)	2,389.00
Yellowknife Women's Society	Attendance at the C.O.V.A. Conference (Mississauga)	1,519.00
Arviat Victims Support Group	Attendance at the C.O.V.A. Conference (Mississauga); Translation and Distribution of Information (Arviat)	2,047.00
Society Against Family Abuse (Yellowknife; Fort Good Hope)	Attendance at the C.O.V.A. Conference (Mississauga)	4,000.00
Arctic P.L.E.I. Society (Yellowknife)	Family Violence Awareness Training Workshop for Professionals and Community Resource Workers (Yellowknife)	4,440.00
Uncle Gabe's Friendship Centre (Fort Smith)	Attendance at the National Family Mediation/Conflict Resolution Conference (Halifax)	2,407.00

Y.W.C.A. (Yellowknife)	Attendance at the First National Suicide Prevention Conference (Vancouver)	1,765.33
Pangnirtung Mental Health Society	Training for Safe Shelter Workers	5,000.00
Patricia McKeon, C.S.J. (Fort Franklin)	Mental Health Research Project (Ft. Franklin)	1,500.00
Iqaluit Women's Association	Self-defence Training Courses for Women and Children (Iqaluit)	3,840.00
Inuvik Native Band	Attendance at the First National Elder Abuse and Crime Conference (Toronto)	2,500.00
Pairijait Tigumivik (Elders Society of Iqaluit)	Attendance at the First National Elder Abuse and Crime Conference (Toronto)	2,500.00
Vera Morin (Yellowknife)	Attendance at the 'Women in a Violent Society' Conference (Banff)	1,418.47
Karas E.A.P. Services Ltd. (Yellowknife)	Critical Incident Response Training (Calgary)	1,826.22
NWT Family Counselling Services	Clinical Training for the Treatment and Counselling of Adult Survivors of Childhood Sexual Abuse (Calgary/Edmonton)	1,810.85
Y.W.C.A. (Yellowknife)	Part-time Family Violence Second Stage Program Worker	14,062.00
Ingamo Hall Friendship Centre (Inuvik)	Community Information & Awareness Project	4,200.00
Soaring Eagle Friendship Centre (Hay River)	Attendance at the 5th Northern Justice Conference (Sitka, Alaska)	2,000.00
Canadian Mental Health Association - NWT Division (Yellowknife, Inuvik, Iqaluit)	Attendance at the 'Women in a Violent Society' Confernce (Banff)	4,403.84
Norman R. Bennett (Yellowknife)	Attendance at the 'Native Children of Alcoholic Parents' Conference (Vancouver)	250.00
Arctic P.L.E.I. Society	Proposal Writer for a Northern Victims Assistance Conference (Hay River, February 1992)	6,730.00
NWT Family Counselling Services	Attendance at the 'Women in a Violent Society' Conference (Banff)	1,409.42
Yellowknife Women's Society	Attendance at the 'Sorrow & Strength: the Process' Conference on Adult Survivors of Childhood Sexual Abuse (Winnipeg)	1,247.00
NWT Status of Women Council	Production of Family Violence Awareness TV Ads	9,400.00
TOTAL		117,463.63

NOTE: Shaded areas are proposals approved within 1990/91 but funds not disbursed during the fiscal year.

Appendix "B"

VICTIMS ASSISTANCE COMMITTEE

MANDATE

The mandate of the Victims Assistance Committee is to promote the needs and concerns of victims of crime. The Committee makes recommendations to the Minister of Justice on policies and programs respecting services to victims and on financial contributions from a Victims Assistance Fund for activities related to victims of crime.

Submissions are made by a written request for funding to the Committee, which reviews the proposal and makes a recommendation to the Minister who has the final authority for approving the spending of money from the Victims Assistance Fund.

Preference is given to voluntary and non-government, non-profit organizations (NGO's) which assist victims of crime and who wish to undertake projects that support community initiatives in victim assistance.

Some examples of proposals which the Committee may consider are:

* the provision of information (written, audio, visual, oral) to victims, witnesses and criminal justice workers on:
  the rights and responsibilities of victims, available services, crime prevention, case progress reports, the criminal justice system and its procedures, and any related material on victims of crime;

* direct service programs which provide crisis response, personal support and follow-up assistance to victims;

* training and educational activities (conferences, workshops, forums, etc.) for volunteers, community resource workers and professionals in the field of victim services and assistance;

* public education and information programs and activities; and

* any other activities which the Committee may accept as valid and reasonable in the provision of services to victims of crime.

Priority for funding will be for training designed to sensitize community resource workers and caregivers (shelter workers, health, police, social service workers, etc.) as to the needs and concerns of victims.

Funding under this program is not to duplicate the money received from any other sources; the emphasis will be the development of new resources or the enhancement of existing ones.

Appendix "C"

VICTIMS ASSISTANCE FUND
APPLICATION PROCEDURES

COVER LETTER

Mail, facsimile or deliver a written request to the Chairperson of the Victims Assistance Committee (on your letterhead) giving a brief description of your project, why it is needed, and the amount of money you require from the Victims Assistance Fund.

FUNDING PROPOSAL (1 or 2 pages)

Provide the following:

* a brief description of your organization
* your mandate and how it relates to victims of crime
* sources of funding for your organization
* a short statement of your project and why it is needed
* project workplan: dates, participants, agenda, resource persons, etc.
* what you expect from this project and how you will evaluate the results

BUDGET (1 page)

Provide costs of your project, where applicable:

Personnel:	consultant or contract fees, translators, etc.
Travel:	airfare, taxi, accommodations, meals
Office:	telephone, facsimile, rental, etc.
Supplies:	photocopying, pamphlets, etc.
Equipment:	lease, rental, purchase
Miscellaneous:	fees, etc.

* INDICATE OTHER SOURCES OF FUNDING FOR THIS PROJECT *

REFERENCES

Provide three letters of support (e.g. R.C.M.P., municipalities, MLA's, regional councils, etc. - at least one of which is from within the community) for projects other than conferences.

CONFERENCES/WORKSHOPS (submit the following only)

1. A cover letter indicating the time and place of the event (attach the conference or workshop brochure) and the amount requested;
2. A budget sheet detailing travel costs such as airfare (excursion, full fare or convention rates), taxi, accommodations, meals, and registration fees.

FOR INFORMATION:

Coordinator
VICTIMS ASSISTANCE COMMITTEE
G.N.W.T. Department of Justice
Yellowknife, N.W.T. X1A 2L9
(403) 920-6418 [collect]
(403) 873-0173 [fax]

Appendix "D"

STATEMENT OF BASIC PRINCIPLES OF JUSTICE FOR VICTIMS OF CRIME

In recognition of the *United Nations Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime*, Federal and Provincial/Territorial Ministers Responsible for Justice agree that the following principles should guide Canadian society in promoting access to justice, fair treatment and provision of assistance for victims of crime:

1. Victims should be treated with courtesy, compassion and with respect for their dignity and privacy and should suffer the minimum of necessary inconvenience from their involvement with the criminal justice system.

2. Victims should receive, through formal and informal procedures, prompt and fair redress for the harm which they have suffered.

3. Information regarding remedies and the mechanisms to obtain them should be made available to victims.

4. Information should be made available to victims about their participation in criminal proceedings and the scheduling, progress and ultimate disposition of the proceedings.

5. Where appropriate, the views and concerns of victims should be ascertained and assistance provided throughout the criminal process.

6. Where the personal interests of the victim are affected, the views or concerns of the victim should be brought to the attention of the court, where appropriate and consistent with criminal law and procedure.

7. Measures should be taken when necessary to ensure the safety of victims and their families and to protect them from intimidation and retaliation.

8. Enhanced training should be made available to sensitize criminal justice personnel to the needs and concerns of victims and guidelines developed, where appropriate, for this purpose.

9. Victims should be informed of the availability of health and social services and other relevant assistance so that they might continue to receive the necessary medical, psychological and social assistance through existing programs and services.

10. Victims should report the crime and co-operate with law enforcement authorities.

Signed by The Honourable Michael A. Ballantyne
and all Federal/Provincial/Territorial Ministers of Justice
in March 1988 at Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

Appendix "E"

VICTIMS OF CRIME ACT, S.N.W.T. 1988(2), c.22

The Commissioner of the Northwest Territories, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Assembly, enacts as follows:

Definitions

1. In this Act,

"Committee" "Committee" means the Victims Assistance Committee established under section 2;

"fund" "fund" means the Victims Assistance Fund established under section 11;

"judge" "judge" includes a justice of the peace and a territorial judge;

"victims" "victims"

(a) means persons who, individually or collectively, have suffered harm, including
  (i) physical or mental injury,
  (ii) emotional suffering,
  (iii) economic loss, or
  (iv) substantial impairment of their fundamental rights,
  through acts or omissions which are in violation of criminal laws or laws that have penal consequences, regardless of whether the perpetrator is identified, apprehended, prosecuted or convicted,

(b) includes, where appropriate, the immediate family or dependants of the direct victims, and

(c) includes persons who have suffered harm in intervening to assist victims in distress or to prevent victimization.

Victims Assistance Committee

Establishment of Committee

2.(1) A Victims Assistance Committee is established.

Appointment

(2) The Committee shall consist of three members who shall be appointed by the Minister.

Term

(3) The term of each member of the Committee shall not exceed three years, as designated in the appointment.

Honorarium

(4) The members of the Committee may be paid an honorarium in an amount determined by the Minister.

Quorum

(5) Two members of the Committee constitute a quorum.

Chairperson

3. The Minister shall designate one of the members as chairperson of the Committee.

Conflict of interest

4.(1) A member of the Committee who is associated with a person, organization or institution being considered for funding under section 7 shall disclose that association.

Member may vote

(2) A member referred to in subsection (1) may vote on any question relating to a proposed recommendation of the Committee unless the member has a direct pecuniary interest in the funding.

Committee shall promote services to victims

5. The Committee shall promote

(a) courteous and compassionate treatment of victims;

(b) prompt redress for victims, through civil and criminal law procedures, for the harm which they have suffered;

(c) the availability of information to a victim about

(i) the scope, nature, timing and progress of the prosecution of the offence in which he or she was a victim,

(ii) the role of the victim in the court proceeding,

(iii) the remedies and the social, legal, medical and mental health services available to the victim and the mechanisms to obtain access to them, and

(iv) the responsibility of the victim to report the crime and co-operate with law enforcement authorities;

(d) research into and the distribution of information about services to victims and the needs and concerns of victims;

(e) assistance to victims in bringing their views and concerns to the attention of the court where their personal interests are affected, and where it is consistent with criminal law and procedure;

(f) measures to be taken to minimize inconvenience to victims and to ensure the safety of victims; and

(g) training for police, health, social service and other personnel as to the needs and concerns of victims.

Programs

6. The Committee may work with prosecutors and with law enforcement agencies, courts, social agencies and any organizations established to serve victims in order to assist them in developing programs that promote the purposes of this Act.

Applications and submissions

7.(1) Any person, organization or institution may submit, to the Committee, applications and submissions relating to

(a) the needs and concerns of victims;

(b) funding of and research into services to victims and the needs and concerns of victims;

(c) funding of services to victims;

(d) distribution of information respecting services to victims and the needs and concerns of victims; and

(e) promotion and delivery of services to victims.

Applications submitted to Committee

(2) Any application for funding from the fund shall be submitted to the Committee for a recommendation as to whether the funding should be given.

Review and recommendation

(3) The Committee

(a) shall review the applications and submissions made under subsections (1) and (2);

(b) may consider for funding, at its discretion, any other person, organization or institution that is or may be established to serve victims; and

(c) shall recommend to the Minister the names of proposed recipients of money from the fund, the terms and conditions upon which the money should be paid and the purposes for which the money should be spent.

Idem

(4) The Committee may make recommendations to the Minister relating to
(a) the development of policies respecting services to victims; and
(b) any other matter that the Minister refers to the Committee.

Review

8. The Committee shall review the operation, development and cost of services to victims and research projects for which money from the fund is spent.

Examination of documents

9. The Committee may require a person, organization or institution being considered for funding under section 7, or a recipient of funding under section 14, to submit to the Committee such reports, contracts or documents related to the application or receipt as the Committee considers advisable.

Report

10.(1) The Committee shall, within four months after the end of every fiscal year of the fund, make a report to the Minister on the activities of the Committee for that fiscal year.

Report laid before Legislative Assembly

(2) The Minister shall lay a copy of the report of the Committee before the Legislative Assembly immediately after receiving the report or, if the Legislative Assembly is not then in session, at the next ensuing session.

Victims Assistance Fund

Establishment of fund

11.(1) A Victims Assistance Fund is established.

Special purpose fund

(2) The fund is a special purpose fund within the meaning of the Financial Administration Act.

Surcharge

12.(1) Subject to subsection (3), every person, other than a young person as defined in the Young Offenders Act, who is convicted of an offence under an enactment, shall pay a surcharge
(a) in an amount to be determined by multiplying the amount of the fine or penalty that is imposed on the person for the offence by a percentage, not to exceed 20%, that is prescribed by regulation; or
(b) in the amount of $25, where no fine is imposed on the person for the offence.

Payment priorities

(2) Where a person pays only a portion of a fine and surcharge that must be paid under paragraph (1)(a), the payment received must be applied first, in payment of the surcharge and second, in payment of the fine.

Exception

(3) Where a judge has convicted a person of an offence under an enactment, and the person establishes to the satisfaction of the judge that the surcharge would result in undue hardship to the person, the judge may waive or reduce the surcharge.

Reasons for waiving or reducing surcharge

(4) Where the judge waives or reduces the surcharge, the judge shall
(a) provide the reasons why the surcharge is being waived or reduced; and
(b) enter the reasons in the record of the proceedings or, where the proceedings are not recorded, provide written reasons.

Enforcement

(5) Subject to this Act, the provisions of the Summary Conviction Procedures Act and regulations under that Act respecting payment of a fine or penalty and imprisonment in default of payment of a fine or penalty apply, with such modifications as the circumstances require, to payment of a surcharge.

Idem

(6) No person shall discharge all or any part of a surcharge by means of a work option as defined in the Fine Option Act.

Payment into fund

13.(1) Subject to subsection (2), money that is received for or otherwise credited to the fund, including

(a) the surcharge when collected, and

(b) any money from a person or source made payable to the fund,

must be paid to the Minister for the account of the fund.

Idem

(2) Money that is received from the Government of Canada in accordance with an agreement entered into under section 19, may be deposited to the account of the fund at the discretion of the Minister.

Money to be held in trust

(3) The fund shall be held in an account forming part of the Consolidated Revenue Fund, in trust for the purposes of this Act.

Disbursements from the fund

14.(1) The Minister may authorize disbursements from the fund for

(a) promotion and delivery of services to victims;

(b) research into services to victims and needs and concerns of victims;

(c) distribution of information respecting services to victims and needs and concerns of victims;

(d) remuneration of members of the Committee for their services and for reimbursement of reasonable expenses incurred on behalf of the Committee; and

(e) any other purpose the Minister considers necessary for carrying out the purposes of this Act.

Trust conditions

(2) Money received into the fund subject to trust conditions must be disbursed according to those conditions.

Recommendations of Committee

(3) Prior to authorizing disbursements under subsection (1), the Minister shall consider the recommendations of the Committee.

Disbursements from the fund

(4) No disbursements shall be made from the fund unless authorized under subsection (1).

Idem

(5) Disbursements made from the fund shall be limited to the amount of money in the fund.

No direct compensation

15. The fund shall not be used to provide direct financial compensation to individual victims.

Investment of excess moneys

16. If at any time the balance to the credit of the fund or the amount received subject to trust conditions is in excess of the amount that is required for the immediate purposes of this Act or the trust conditions, the Minister may invest the excess in a manner authorized by the Financial Administration Act and any income shall be credited to the fund.

Fiscal year

17. The fiscal year of the fund shall be the period beginning on April 1 in one year and ending on March 31 of the following year.

General

Application

18. This Act does not create any civil cause of action, right to damages or any right of appeal on behalf of any person.

Agreements with Canada

19. The Minister, on behalf of the Government of the Northwest Territories, may enter into agreements with the Government of Canada respecting funding to assist victims and for the carrying out of the purposes of this Act.

Regulations

20. The Commissioner, upon the recommendation of the Minister, may make regulations
(a) prescribing the percentage for the purpose of determining the amount of the surcharge; and
(b) generally for carrying out the purposes of this Act.

Commencement

21. This Act shall come into force on a day to be fixed by order of the Commissioner.